

Release

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## STATEMENT BY SECRETARY KERRY

### Palau's Independence Day

On behalf of President Obama and the people of the United States, I would like to congratulate the people of the sovereign nation of Palau as you celebrate the 20th anniversary of your nation's independence this October 1st.

The United States and Palau enjoy a close relationship, strengthened by our shared history and cooperation in advancing our mutual values and interests. Our nation's work together has helped to strengthen regional security, promote sustainable development, and protect fisheries and the environment.

The United States looks forward to continuing its partnership with Palau, and we wish all Palauans a joyous celebration, and peace and prosperity over the coming year.